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1/1/58
LACK OF CONCERN OVER ISSUE "CONTINGENCY PLANS" AND WHETHER
GDR OFFICIALS REPLACE SOVIET OFFICIALS IN ADMINISTERING BERLIN
TRAFFIC CONTROLS. HE IS EVEN UNCONCERNED ABOUT "RECOGNITION"
GDR. HIS POSITION IS THAT THERE IS NO ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN SOVIETS AND GDR FOR THESE PURPOSES AND THAT REAL
ISSUE IS WHAT TO DO WHEN EITHER SOVIETS OR GDR ATTEMPT USE
FORCE PREVENT ACCESS TO BERLIN OR START PROCESS OF HARASSMENT
OR STRANGULATION DESIGNED TO FORCE US OUT.

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THIS HIGHLIGHTS
GENERAL BRITISH DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING ISSUE OF "RECOGNITION"
AS POINT WHERE WEST MUST DRAW LINE. SAME DIFFICULTY CAME OUT
IN DISCUSSION WITH SIX INFLUENTIAL TORY BACKBENCHERS AT
LUNCHEON AT AMBASSADOR'S HOME TODAY (WHICH IS BEING REPORTED
SEPARATELY).

WHITNEY

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